

# RESILIENCE → ))))))) | NEED TO KNOW GUIDE

## Understanding Farming & Aquaculture Risk Control Challenges

This document has been delivered to you via the Business and Property Protection Portal because risk control information is sought for Business Type 'Mixed Farming'. This document simply outlines key challenges in this industry; solutions to these will be found in the supplied resource library.

Mixed Farming presents a wide range of risk control challenges due to their often remote location, unsecured boundaries, potentially hazardous operations, storage of potentially hazardous substances, waste disposal, and animal/human proximity.

### General points for consideration

#### Challenges of remote locations

- Potentially slow response from emergency services (Fire, Police, and Ambulance)
- Often sited in Environmentally Sensitive Areas which may place restrictions on certain farming operations and limit response options (ie application of water during firefighting)
- Sometimes poor firefighting water availability
- Often associated with empty buildings and buildings of historic value
- Over-land electricity lines

#### Challenges of unsecured boundaries

- Security against theft of farm machinery, animals, fuels, raw materials, and product
- Security against vandalism and arson (hay storage and wildfire) of stock and infrastructure
- Welfare of those with rights of access across land who may be with animals of their own
- Fly tipping and unauthorised encampment of travellers and others

#### Challenges of bulk storage

- Chemicals, pesticides, and fertilisers that may be toxic or flammable
- Liquid and solid fuels
- Farming waste materials/cesspits/slurry
- Self-heating materials fire threats

#### Personnel safety challenges

- Close-proximity operation of moving machinery and vehicles
- Slips, trips, falls, working at height, and heavy lifting operations
- Aggressive animal behaviours towards employees and public
- Generation of flammable, explosive, and toxic gases (ie slurry gas)
- Open water drowning
- Use of 'gang' labour at harvesting – potentially unaware of farming risks
- Loan working
- Unattended process fire risks

#### Other

- Large building heating systems
- Open water and drowning risks
- Shoots, gun control, and gun security
- Flood and adverse weather conditions

### Key relationships

- Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA)
- Scottish Executive Environment and Rural Affairs Department (SEERAD)
- Your insurer
- National Farmers Union
- Health and Safety Executive
- Local Fire Authority

